



**STATE OF MISSISSIPPI**  
TATE REEVES, GOVERNOR  
**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY**  
**MISSISSIPPI HIGHWAY SAFETY**  
SEAN J. TINDELL, COMMISSIONER

March 31, 2023

The Honorable Michael Guest  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC

Dear Congressman Guest,

I am writing to you from my position as Chief of Capitol Police, a division of the Mississippi Department of Public Safety (MDPS). I am responsible for protecting the life and property within the boundaries of the Mississippi Capitol Complex Improvement District, located in Jackson, Mississippi, as well as properties in Biloxi and Hattiesburg, Mississippi.

This letter is to express my support for the University of Mississippi Medical Center Police Department's Community Project Funding (CPF) request. This request, in the amount of \$380,000.00, would provide critical resources to UMMC's officers and enhance their ability to protect and serve the thousands of people on their campus each day.

The University of Mississippi Medical Center is in the heart of the state's capitol city of Jackson, Mississippi. On average, 24,000 employees, students, patients and visitors come and go from campus daily. The combination of high visitor traffic, increasing urban crime, and threats specific to academic and healthcare facilities create an urgency around safety and security.

UMMC's campus is located within the CCID, which was created by Mississippi legislation in 2017. As such, the UMMC Police Department and the Mississippi Department of Public Safety Capitol Police entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on March 27, 2023. The law enforcement agencies work closely together to provide excellent service and protection to those within our jurisdiction. This CPF funding would allow the agencies the budget to add additional technology and resources to better align the agencies with 21<sup>st</sup> Century Policing Best Practices.

UMMC PD and DPS Capitol Police have a close working relationship. Executing the MOU this month further enhances our ability to formalize our relationship. With the CPF monies, UMMC PD will have the technology and tools to use evidence-based strategies to improve community-police relations in the Magnolia State.

Bo Luckey  
Chief Capitol Police  
Mississippi Department of Public Safety



March 29, 2023

The Honorable Michael Guest  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC

Dear Congressman Guest,

I am writing you from my position as Chief of Police and Executive Director of Public Safety at The University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC). I am responsible for the safety and security of the students, faculty, staff, patients and guests at UMMC.

Since my arrival in July, 2021 we have made many improvements to the life safety of our community and we continue to do so every day. We have a leadership team lead by Vice Chancellor Lou Ann Woodward who is committed to making UMMC a safe place for Education, Research and Healthcare within the city of Jackson, Mississippi.

In order to continue improve UMMC PD's commitment to public safety we are asking for your support for the Community Project Funding (CPF). UMMC PD's request, in the amount of \$380,000, would provide critical resources to UMMC's officers and enhance our police department's ability to protect and serve the thousands of people on our campus each day.

If approved, UMMC PD would use these funds to add Mobile Data Terminals (MDT) to our police cars. As you know the mobile landscape has evolved. Today's law enforcement agencies rely on the ever-increasing advances in technology to provide tools that aid them in serving their communities.

In addition to our body worn cameras we deployed FY23, another goal we have is to add internet capability and police car cameras to our fleet of police vehicles. We would also add safety storage for our rifles to our vehicles which would allow our responding units the tools they may need to stop a threat to our campus.

In the near future, UMMC PD plans to add a Bomb Detection K-9 section to our current department. The Bomb Detection Canine (K9) Section is a specialized group of Explosive Detection Canine (EDC) handlers, and K9 partners, whose mission is to deter and detect the introduction of explosive devices in Capitol Complex Improvement District (CCID).

We would use these monies for enhancements for UMMC PD and our partners DPS Capitol PD through our memorandum of understand. I believe CPF funding will allow UMMC PD and Capitol PD funding required to enhance the tools they need to keep them safe and build trust and legitimacy in the communities we serve.

Mary Eileen Paradis  
Chief of Police and Executive Director of Public Safety  
University of Mississippi Medical Center  
Police & Public Safety Department  
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